



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was barely steady in the East; steady to barely steady elsewhere. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate best where limited feature activity and fast food promotions were in progress. Supplies were sufficient to available with 3 pound sizes in the East in the longest position. In the parts structure, wings and tenders were adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Dark meat items were adequate and breast items were available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 69.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.75 cents last year on September 25, 2002.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	209.00
BREASTS - B/S	191.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	97.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	93.00
LEG QUARTERS	32.00
WINGS	86.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was no better than steady. Demand was light to fair, best where retail ads were in progress. Supplies were fully sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, tenders and wings were clearing satisfactorily. Dark meat items were adequate. Breast items were available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly light to no better than fair as dealers continued to cautiously assess the market. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate with the 3 pound birds remaining in the longest position. Movement through retail and distributive channels was light. The market tone was barely steady. In the parts complex, breast items were available. Wings and tenderloins were clearing well. Dark meat cuts were manageable.

MIDWEST Trade sentiment on whole fryers was steady with a barely steady undertone. Offerings of whole fryers and wogs were moderate to occasionally heavy for the mostly cautious and inactive buyer interest. Movement into all channels was lackluster; retail demand was generally light while food service demand was mostly moderate. Retail features noted on whole fryers at 79 cents, several branded items were featured at BOGO. Floor stocks were adequate to long. Weights were desirable to occasionally heavy. Trading on parts items was fairly good for large wings and quiet for on all other items. Offerings of heavy wings were very light, tenders, dark meat items moderate, breast items were moderate to heavy and increasingly discounted to help stimulate interest. The market tone was barely steady to weak on breast items, and steady on all remaining items.

WESTERN The market tone was about steady. Offerings were generally adequate to cover trade needs. Buying activity remained fair. Retailer demand was fairly good best to cover ad activities. Floor stocks were adequate.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES WEEK ENDING 09/20/03	2003	2002	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	194,733	189,744	+03
CHICKS PLACED	165,572	165,465	0

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 195 million eggs in incubators during the week ending September 20, 2003. This was up 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 20, 2003. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through September 20, 2003 were 6.39 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 1-Nov-03 is estimated at 154.1 million head. This compares to 155.0 million head the previous week and to 156.2 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 157.1 million head and the composite weighted average price was 52.93 cents per pound.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2003

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	877	160.00-238.00	162-170	165.20
TENDERLOINS	1,150	167.00-216.00	167-170	170.37
BREAST - LINE RUN	73	93.00-103.00	93-95	95.68
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	128	32.00-53.00	32-35	35.38
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	592	25.00-30.00	26-27	26.47
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	920	27.00-34.00	29-30	30.00
WINGS (WHOLE)	100	78.00-85.00	79-81	80.10
WINGS (CUT)	657	84.00-101.00	-	91.63
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	28	53.00-59.00	-	54.71
B/S THIGHS	95	86.00-94.00	-	90.21

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
53.00 - 58.50	55.24

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	847	159.00-238.00	161-165	164.18
TENDERLOINS	187	168.00-217.00	168-170	176.49
BREAST - LINE RUN	98	92.00-102.00	93-95	94.74
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	103	32.00-53.00	33-35	35.96
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	588	25.00-30.00	26-27	26.46
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	920	27.00-33.50	29-30	29.89
WINGS (WHOLE)	100	78.00-84.00	79-81	79.95
WINGS (CUT)	483	84.00-101.00	-	91.59
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	28	53.00-59.00	-	57.29
B/S THIGHS	104	80.00-95.00	-	88.65

 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
53.00 - 58.50	55.40	55.51

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was light to no better than fair as dealers noted little confidence in the market. Offering of breast items were available, with bone-in breasts in the longest position. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings and tenderloins were adequate to balanced. Retail and distributive movement was lackluster. Trade sentiment was unsettled. The market tone was steady on wings and tenderloins, mostly steady on dark meat cuts and barely steady to instances weak on breast items.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. SEPTEMBER 23, 2003

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	180	178.72	342,420
TENDERLOINS	165	168.95	117,800
BREAST - WITH RIBS	87-88	93.59	285,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	87	87.75	116,960
LEGS	38-39	38.63	256,160
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	28.37	462,535
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	40.58	119,440
THIGHS	28-29	40.49	77,120
B/S THIGHS	84-85	86.66	56,600
WINGS (WHOLE)	76-77	85.11	125,600
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.39	44,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25-30	32.92	15,120
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.07	24,240

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2003

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	180	178.04	288,080
TENDERLOINS	165	165.72	139,790
BREAST - WITH RIBS	87-88	93.47	289,480
BREAST - LINE RUN	87	86.56	124,760
LEGS	38-39	38.32	266,720
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	28-29	28.22	344,294
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	36.89	126,090
THIGHS	28-29	35.22	83,750
B/S THIGHS	84-85	85.91	89,000
WINGS (WHOLE)	76-77	83.27	197,270
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.86	36,160
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25-30	28.54	23,280
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	48.93	24,880

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	09/24	09/23	09/22	09/19	09/18
ALA	4,045	4,110	4,010	4,056	5.28
ARK	5,297	5,389	5,302	5,557	5.19
DELMARVA	2,334	2,320	2,523	2,248	5.45
KY-LA-TN	1,838	1,726	1,721	2,013	4.97
MISS	2,958	3,118	3,024	2,626	5.32
NC	2,427	2,429	2,334	2,288	6.25
TEXAS	2,031	2,365	2,454	2,507	5.05
TOTAL	20,930	21,457	21,368	21,295	5.34
MON-WED 63,865(A)					5.16
					21,802
					5.31

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 9/24 is estimated to be 31,314,000 down 4.3 percent from a week ago and down 1.2 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,716,000; last year 31,690,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	60-63
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	100
	DRY PACK	101-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	105
	DRY PACK	89-105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 27 SEP-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	09/27/03 (1)	09/20/03
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	164,792 (2)	163,097
LT HENS	1,361	1,253
HVY HENS	1,597	1,523
CHECK TOTAL	167,750	165,873

(1) ESTIMATED

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-Sep-03 is 159.4 million head compared to 159.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 165.1 million head or 5.7 million more than estimated available. For week of 04-Oct-03 the estimated available is 158.9 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
LBS		LBS	
AM 09/22/03	212,212	AM 09/22/03	48,379
AM 09/01/03	221,358	AM 09/01/03	58,470
CHG	-9,146	CHG	-10,091
PCT CHG	-4	PCT CHG	-17

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	9/22/03	9/15/03	9/23/02	9/22/03	9/15/03	9/23/02
PACIFIC						
COAST	21,461	21,079	30,872	4,963	5,232	6,068
LOS						
ANGELES	796	478	1,378	2,524	2,768	4,047

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2003

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	59-63
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	63-76

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 9/23/03				FOR 9/23/03			
	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.25	.55	.42	HEAVY FOWL ea.	.50	2.50	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	1.50	3.00	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	1.75	2.25	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	.50	7.25	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	.25	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	4.75	5.25	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	1.00	-	ROOSTERS ea.	2.00	5.00	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.42	.58	.50	TURKEYS ea.	1.00	6.00	-
DUCKS lb.	1.00	1.65	1.38	DUCKS ea.	4.25	7.25	-
RABBITS lb.	.30	1.45	.79	RABBITS ea.	2.00	3.00	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	4.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	4.75	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS	102						

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending September 19, 2003

	Whole		Legs	Necks,Back	Livers/	Hens
	Chickens	Breasts	w/ Thighs	&Wings	Gizzards	
RAYON						
Low	54.17	116.68	75.01	12.50	12.50	43.76
High	58.34	125.02	83.35	20.84	16.67	43.76
Mostly	56.26	125.02	75.01	16.67	16.67	43.76

SAN JUAN

Low	53.34	116.68	75.01	12.50	12.50	41.67
High	57.51	125.02	83.35	16.67	16.67	41.67
Mostly	56.26	116.68	75.01	12.50	12.50	41.67

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	53.34	116.68	75.01	12.50	12.50	45.84
High	57.51	125.02	83.35	16.67	16.67	45.84
Mostly	55.84	116.68	75.01	12.50	12.50	45.84

BECERRA

Low	54.17	116.68	75.01	12.50	12.50	45.84
High	58.34	125.02	83.35	16.67	16.67	45.84
Mostly	56.26	125.02	83.35	16.67	16.67	45.84

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds slowed and was generally no better than fair. The usual lighter end-of-the month consumer buying interest coupled with the upcoming Jewish Holiday leave seller offerings in a fully adequate to readily available position. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights continued to vary in a full range of light to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 61 to 71 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, supplies were at least adequate for the light and cautious buyer.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	59-75
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	64.16
NO. OF BOXES	8,797

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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